



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **C-1**

October 22, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

AWARD OF PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 4 AND 5 3 VOTES

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Award and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to prepare the construction contracts in the form previously approved by County Counsel, execute the contracts, and establish the effective dates following receipt of approved Faithful Performance and Labor and Material bonds filed by the contractor for the following:

Project ID No. RDC0013298 - Prairie Ave./Madrona Ave., Artesia Blvd. to Sepulveda Blvd., City of Torrance (4) to Amelco Electric S. F., Inc., in amount of \$389,886.

Project ID No. SMDACO0085 - Lake Hughes Rehabilitation of Manholes, vicinity of Lake Hughes (5) to Sun Coast Environmental NW, Inc., in amount of \$98,250.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

We are recommending that your Board award these construction contracts and authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute the contracts and establish the effective contract dates following receipt of approved bonds and insurance filed by contractors for each of these projects.

The enclosure for each project includes the project description, the call for bids and bid opening dates, a tabulation of bids, and financial information. The certified record of receipt of bids and the original bid proposals for each project are also enclosed, including an addendum to the contract specifications for Project ID No. SMDACO0085.

The recommended construction contracts are necessary to execute Board-directed and approved Public Works projects in support of operational missions. Your Board's approval of the recommended contract awards and our subsequent execution of the contracts will ensure the timely completion of the projects.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The award of these construction contracts is consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence since these contracts will provide improved infrastructure to better serve the public.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The enclosure for each project includes the amount of the recommended contract as compared with the engineer's estimate and the other bids received.

These projects are included in the 2002-03 Department of Public Works Budget. The enclosure for each project includes more detailed fiscal and financial information.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Recommended contract awards are to the lowest responsible bidders in accordance with the California Public Contract Code and your Board's directives.

On October 27, 1981, your Board adopted a program for the use of small Minority and Women-owned Businesses (MWBs) on Federal and State funded highway construction contracts. Companies meeting these requirements are certified by the State as Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). An overall goal for subcontracting portions of the work to DBEs is established for each project. Contracts are recommended for award to the lowest responsible bidder who meets the goal or documents a good faith effort to do so in conformance with the program.

We have also developed an outreach program to encourage all qualified contractors to participate in the bidding and contracting process on our projects. Under this program, we place notices of upcoming bids in local and minority newspapers throughout the County. These notices indicate that copies of plans and specifications are available at specified libraries and the Public Works Headquarters building. This allows interested contractors to view the plans and specifications at convenient locations. We also provide telephone numbers (including one for Spanish-speaking contractors) to obtain further information on bidding and subcontracting opportunities.

To further increase contractor awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, each of these projects was listed on the County website for upcoming bids.

The State Labor Code requires contractors to pay prevailing wage rates to all persons employed on public works construction contracts. These rates are determined by the Department of Industrial Relations and include contributions for fringe benefits such as vacations, pension funds, training, and health plans for each employee.

As required by your Board, language has been incorporated into the project specifications stating that the contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the Federal income tax laws.

The contracts will be in the form previously approved by County Counsel. We will also review and approve the faithful performance and payment bonds filed by the contractors.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Each of these projects was found to be categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act at the time your Board called for bids. The specifics of these findings are included in the enclosure for each project.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The contracts were solicited on an open competitive basis in accordance with the provisions of the Public Contract Code.

The project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the contractor offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

Public Works has confirmed that all of the respective contractors are in compliance with the County's Child Support Compliance Program and the requirements of the Contractor Employee Jury Service Program.

The project specifications also contain a provision that, should the contractor require additional or replacement personnel to fill employment openings, consideration shall be given to hiring qualified participants in the County's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program.

To ensure that the contracts are awarded to responsible contractors with satisfactory performance histories, bidders are required to report violations of the False Claims Act, their civil litigation history, and information regarding prior criminal convictions. The information reported by all of the respective contractors was considered before making this recommendation to approve execution of the contracts.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These construction contracts will result in improved public works infrastructure in the communities where the work is scheduled. Where appropriate, local residents and businesses will be informed that traffic and local access may be mildly disrupted during the construction. The proposed schedules for construction are included in the enclosure for each project.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
October 22, 2002
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CONCLUSION

Please return one approved copy of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. NOYES
Director of Public Works

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Enc. 2

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

AWARD OF CONTRACT
October 22, 2002

PROJECT ID NO. RDC0013298, PRAIRIE AVENUE/MADRONA AVENUE,
ARTESIA BOULEVARD TO SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD (City of Torrance),
Supervisory District 4

TYPE OF WORK: Synchronization of traffic signals.

CALL FOR BIDS DATE: September 3, 2002 (Synopsis 39)

BID OPENING DATE: October 1, 2002

BID SUMMARY:

Low	Amelco Electric S. F., Inc., a corporation 2654 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Lynwood, California 90262 (310) 761-1790	\$389,886.00
2	*Steiny and Company, Inc.	\$421,127.00
3	*L. A. Signal, Inc.	\$439,552.00
4	California Electrical Services	\$453,027.37

*MWBE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Amount of estimate	\$353,782.50
Amount of recommended contract	\$389,886.00
Amount of recommended contract above estimate	\$ 36,103.50

The amount of the recommended contract is 10 percent above the engineer's estimate. A review of the estimate, bidders' pricing, and previously received bids for similar work indicates that the estimate is low and does not reflect current market conditions. We do not believe that re-advertising the project will result in lower bids. Therefore, we recommend award of the contract to the low bidder.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority has approved a grant of Proposition C Discretionary funds to finance the project cost; therefore, the project will be constructed at no cost to the City of Torrance. This project is included in the 2002-03 Proposition C Local Return Fund Budget.

MINORITY/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DATA:

Amelco Electric S. F., Inc., has one MWBE subcontractor/supplier under this contract, yielding a proposed DBE participation of 2 percent. This contract does not have a Federal- or State-mandated DBE goal.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1, Subsection (x)(4), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The contract specifications require the work to be completed in 50 working days; however, an additional 120 calendar days are required for the contractor to obtain the necessary equipment and materials. Therefore, it is estimated that the work will start in March and be completed in May 2003.

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AWARD OF CONTRACT
October 22, 2002

PROJECT ID NO. SMDACO0085, LAKE HUGHES REHABILITATION OF MANHOLES
(in the vicinity of Lake Hughes), Supervisorial District 5

TYPE OF WORK: Rehabilitation of existing sanitary sewer manholes including
cleaning, lining, and removing and replacing steps.

CALL FOR BIDS DATE: August 6, 2002 (Synopsis 57)

BID OPENING DATE: September 3, 2002

BID SUMMARY:

Low	*Sun Coast Environmental NW, Inc., a corporation 14413 SE 8th Street Vancouver, Washington 98683 (360) 883-1724	\$ 98,250.00
2	Tejon Constructors, Inc.	\$143,400.00

*MWBE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Amount of estimate	\$ 94,000.00
Amount of recommended contract	\$ 98,250.00
Amount of recommended contract above estimate	\$ 4,250.00

The amount of the recommended contract is 4.5 percent above the estimate.

Sufficient funds to cover the cost of this project are included in the Accumulative Capital Outlay Fund of the Fiscal Year 2002-03 Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District Budget.

MINORITY/WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DATA:

Sun Coast Environmental NW, Inc., an MBE, has no MWBE subcontractors/suppliers under this contract, which does not have a Federal- or State-mandated DBE goal.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This project is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 1, Subsection (e), of the revised County Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

The contract specifications require the work to be completed in 40 working days. It is estimated that the work will start in January and be completed in March 2003.

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